In the Claims

1. [Original] A method of responding to a status change for a peripheral device comprising:

determining that a status change has occurred in the peripheral device;

combining a unique device identifier relevant to the peripheral device with the status change to form an electronic message; and

transmitting the electronic message across a firewall.

2. [Original] The method of claim 1, wherein determining comprises determining that a quantity of a consumable has fallen below a predetermined threshold and wherein transmitting comprises transmitting the electronic message from an embedded web server contained in the peripheral device across a firewall.

3. [Original] The method of claim 1, wherein determining comprises determining that an order toner condition exists in a hard copy output engine.

4. [Original] The method of claim 1, wherein combining comprises combining the status change with a unique device identifier chosen from a group consisting of: a predetermined account number associated with the peripheral device, a serial number associated with the peripheral device, a vendor email address associated with the peripheral device or a universal resource locator for a web address for a vendor associated with the peripheral device.

5. [Original] The method of claim 1, wherein transmitting comprises transmitting an electronic message to a vendor of consumables and services relevant to the peripheral device.

6. [Original] The method of claim 1, wherein the peripheral device is chosen from a group consisting of: facsimile machines, photocopiers and printers.

7. [Original] The method of claim 1, wherein determining that a status change has occurred comprises determining that a usage threshold indicative of need for preventive maintenance has been met.

8. [Original] An article of manufacture comprising a computer usable medium having computer readable code embodied therein that is configured to cause a processor to:

determine that a status change has occurred in the peripheral device;

combine a unique device identifier relevant to the peripheral device with the status change to form an electronic message; and

transmit the electronic message across a firewall.

9. [Original] The article of manufacture of claim 8, wherein the computer readable code configured to cause a processor to determine comprises computer readable code configured to cause the processor to determine that a quantity of a consumable has fallen below a predetermined threshold and wherein the computer readable code configured to cause a processor to transmit comprises computer readable code configured to cause a process to transmit the electronic message from an embedded web server contained in the peripheral device across a firewall.

10. [Original] The article of manufacture of claim 8, wherein the computer readable code configured to cause a processor to determine comprises computer readable code configured to cause the processor to determine that an order toner condition exists in a hard copy output engine.

11. [Original] The article of manufacture of claim 8, wherein the computer readable code configured to cause a processor to combine comprises computer readable code configured to cause the processor to combine the status change with a unique device identifier chosen from a group consisting of: a predetermined account number associated with the peripheral device, a serial number associated with the peripheral device, a vendor email address associated with the peripheral device or a universal resource locator for a web address for a vendor associated with the peripheral device.

12. [Original] The article of manufacture of claim 8, wherein the computer readable code configured to cause a processor to transmit comprises computer readable code configured to cause the processor to transmit an electronic message to a vendor of consumables and services relevant to the peripheral device.

13. [Original] The article of manufacture of claim 8, wherein the peripheral device is chosen from a group consisting of: facsimile machines, photocopiers and printers.

14. [Original] The article of manufacture of claim 8, wherein the computer readable code configured to cause a processor to determine comprises computer readable code configured to cause the processor to determine that a usage threshold indicative of need for preventive maintenance has been met.

15. [Original] A computer implemented control system for a hard copy output engine, the system comprising:

memory configured to store a software module; and

processing circuitry configured to employ the software module to:

determine that a status change has occurred in the peripheral device;

combine a unique device identifier relevant to the peripheral device with the status change to form an electronic message; and

transmit the electronic message across a firewall.

16. [Original] The computer implemented control system of claim 15, wherein the processor configured to employ the software module to transmit comprises a processor configured to transmit an electronic message to a vendor of consumables and services relevant to the peripheral device and wherein the processor configured to employ the software module to transmit comprises a processor configured to transmit the electronic message from an embedded web server contained in the peripheral device across a firewall.

17. [Original] The computer implemented control system of claim 15, wherein the processor configured to employ the software module to determine comprises a processor configured to employ the software module to determine that a usage threshold indicative of need for preventive maintenance has been met.

18. [Original] The computer implemented control system of claim 15, wherein the processor configured to employ the software module to combine comprises a processor configured to employ the software module to combine the status change with a unique device identifier chosen from a group consisting of: a predetermined account number associated with the peripheral device, a serial number associated with the peripheral device, a vendor email address associated with the peripheral device or a universal resource locator for a web address for a vendor associated with the peripheral device.

19. [Original] The computer implemented control system of claim 15, wherein the hard copy output engine is chosen from a group consisting of: facsimile machines, photocopiers and printers.

20. [Original] The computer implemented control system of claim 15, wherein the processor configured to employ the software module to determine comprises a processor configured to employ the software module to determine that an order toner condition exists in a hard copy output engine.

21. [Original] A computer instruction signal embodied in a carrier wave carrying instructions that when executed by a processor cause the processor to:

determine that a status change has occurred in the peripheral device;

combine a unique device identifier relevant to the peripheral device with the status change to form an electronic message; and

transmit the electronic message across a firewall.

22. [Original] The computer instruction signal of claim 21, wherein the computer instruction signal embodied in the carrier wave carrying instructions that cause the processor to determine comprises a computer instruction signal carrying instructions that when executed cause the processor to determine that a quantity of a consumable has fallen below a predetermined threshold and wherein the computer instruction signal configured to cause a processor to transmit comprises a computer instruction signal carrying instructions that when executed cause the processor to transmit the electronic message from an embedded web server contained in the peripheral device across a firewall.

23. [Original] The computer instruction signal of claim 21, wherein the computer instruction signal embodied in the carrier wave carrying instructions that cause the processor to determine comprises a computer instruction signal carrying instructions that when executed cause the processor to determine that an order toner condition exists in a hard copy output engine.

24. [Original] The computer instruction signal of claim 21, wherein the computer instruction signal embodied in the carrier wave carrying instructions that cause the processor to combine comprises a computer instruction signal carrying instructions that when executed cause the processor to combine the status change with a unique device identifier chosen from a group consisting of: a predetermined account number associated with the peripheral device, a serial number associated with the peripheral device, a vendor email address associated with the peripheral device or a universal resource locator for a web address for a vendor associated with the peripheral device.

25. [Original] The computer instruction signal of claim 21, wherein the computer instruction signal embodied in the carrier wave carrying instructions that cause the processor to transmit comprises a computer instruction signal carrying instructions that when executed cause the processor to transmit an electronic message to a vendor of consumables and services relevant to the peripheral device.

26. [Original] The computer instruction signal of claim 21, wherein the peripheral device is chosen from a group consisting of: facsimile machines, photocopiers and printers.

27. [Original] The computer instruction signal of claim 21, wherein the computer instruction signal embodied in the carrier wave carrying instructions that cause the processor to determine comprises a computer instruction signal carrying instructions that when executed cause the processor to determine that a usage threshold indicative of need for preventive maintenance has been met.

28. [New] The method of claim 1, wherein the combining comprises combining using the peripheral device.

29. [New] The method of claim 1, wherein the transmitting comprises transmitting using the peripheral device.

30. [New] The method of claim 29, wherein the transmitting comprises transmitting the electronic message comprising an order with respect to a consumable of the peripheral device.

31. [New] The method of claim 29, wherein the transmitting comprises transmitting the electronic message comprising an order with respect to maintenance of the peripheral device.

32. [New] The method of claim 1, wherein the combining and the transmitting comprise combining and transmitting using the peripheral device.

33. [New] The method of claim 1, wherein the transmitting comprises transmitting responsive to the determining.

34. [New] The method of claim 1, wherein the transmitting comprises transmitting in the absence of communications received from a device external of the peripheral device.

35. [New] The article of manufacture of claim 8, wherein the computer usable medium is in communication with the processor comprising a processor of the peripheral device.

36. [New] The computer implemented control system of claim 15, wherein the processing circuitry comprises processing circuitry of the hard copy output engine.

37. [New] The computer implemented control system of claim 15, wherein the memory and the processing circuitry comprise memory and processing circuitry of the hard copy output engine.

38. [New] The computer instruction signal of claim 21, wherein the processor comprises a processor of the peripheral device.